

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2008 and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated June 27, 2008. In the Office Action, the Patent Office withdrew Claims 65-74, 120 and 122 as being directed to a non-elected invention. Further, the Patent Office rejected Claims 14, 17, 19, 20, 77, 87-90, 118 and 119 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,876,199 to *Bergersen* ("the '199 Patent"). Still further, the Patent Office rejected the following claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable: Claims 16 and 75 over U.S. Patent No. 4,784,605 to *Bergersen* ("the '605 patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,779,470 to *Kussick*; Claims 30 and 33-38 over U.S. Patent No. 5,876,199 to *Bergersen* ("the '199 Patent") in view of the '605 Patent; Claims 31 and 32 over the '199 Patent in view of the '605 Patent and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,536,168 to *Bourke*; Claim 39 over the '199 Patent in view of the '605 Patent and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,129,084 to *Bergersen* ("the '084 Patent"); and Claim 123 over U.S. Patent No. 4,898,535 to *Bergersen* ("the '535 Patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,645,420 to *Bergersen* ("the '420 Patent"). In the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, the Office Action alleged that the status of Claim 118 was unclear.

By the present Amendment, Applicant added Claims 128-130 and canceled Claims 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 30-39, 75, 77, 87-91, 118, 119 and 123. Applicant submits that the amendments to the claims place

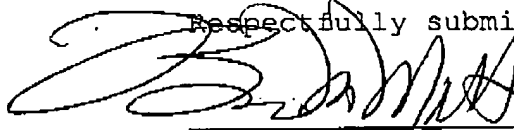
the application in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Further, Applicant revised the listing of claims in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, and submits that this revised Amendment clarifies the status of Claim 118.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Patent Office indicated that Claims 1-13, 21-29, 40-64, 78-86, 92-117, 121 and 124-127 are allowable. Further, the Patent Office indicated that Claims 15, 18 and 76 would be allowable if re-written in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. To this end, Applicant added new Claims 128-130 incorporating the elements of dependent Claims 15, 18 and 76 with independent Claim 14, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant submits Claims 128-130 are in allowable form as identified by the Patent Office.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the application are in allowable form and that the application is in condition for allowance. Further, Applicant submits that neither further search nor consideration would be necessitated by entry of this Amendment. Therefore, entry of this Amendment is proper and should be effected. If, however, any outstanding issues remain, Applicant urges the Patent Office to telephone Applicant's attorney so that the same may be resolved and the application expedited to issue. Applicant

requests the Patent Office to indicate all claims as allowable and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



(Reg. No. 35,018)

Brian M. Mattson
Patents+TMS
A Professional Corporation
2849 W. Armitage Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60647
Telephone: (773) 772-6009
Attorney for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this **Amendment After Final and Transmittal (in duplicate)** are being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 571-273-8300) on July 2, 2008.



Brian M. Mattson (Reg. No. 35,018)